



DAVID SANDERS, PH.D.  
Director

**County of Los Angeles**  
**DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**  
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Board of Supervisors  
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April 21, 2005

Dear Prospective Proposer:

**RE: ADDITIONAL RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS FROM FAMILY SUPPORT,  
FAMILY PRESERVATION, AND ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT  
SERVICES RFP #CMS-04-024/04-025 PROPOSERS CONFERENCE**

The County of Los Angeles, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is issuing the attached additional responses to the Question and Answer portion of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Family Support, Family Preservation and Adoption Promotion and Support Services, RFP #CMS04-024/04-025 Proposers Conference held on April 4, 2005. The first Questions and Answers document was released on April 11, 2005.

We look forward to submission of your proposal(s) on April 29, 2005, 12:00 noon, P.S.T.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter Chan", is written over a horizontal line.

Walter Chan, Manager  
Contracts Administration

WC:RML:rml

Attachments (5)

## Attachment 1

FAMILY SUPPORT, FAMILY PRESERVATION, AND ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES  
Proposer's Conference  
SECOND SET OF QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS  
April 4, 2005

1. The following correction is being made to #28 of the Questions and Answers released on April 11, 2005:

Question: If normal agency hours are 9 AM to 9 PM rather than 8 AM to 5 PM, does that suffice? (FS SOW, page 13)

Answer: ~~Yes.~~ No. The hours 8 A.M. until 5 P.M. are the mandatory standard. Contractors may opt to provide services to exceed this time frame.

2. Question: Do we provide EPSDT clinic budget?

Answer: Yes. An EPSDT/Medi-Cal budget needs to be submitted, in addition to the proposal budget.

3. Question: Part E, Form 19 – List of Commitments – whole agency? Or just this program (APSS)? What specifically should be listed under “list of commitments”?

Answer: Yes, list the commitments for the whole agency. Refer to RFP, Part B, Instructions for Submitting Proposals, Section 7.0, Proposal Components: Required Forms and Content, subsection 7.7.8, Proposer’s Commitments.

4. Question: Can you please provide a list of the current contractors and the geographic areas they serve for FS and FP programs?

Answer: Yes, refer to Attachment 2 to this Q and A for a list of current Family Support providers, and Attachment 3 for a list of current Family Preservation providers.

5. Question: How can a small agency take advantage of this RFP which appears to be designed/catered to the larger multi-servicing agencies who have been in business for some time?

Answer: Refer to Addenda Two and Three modifications, which refer to RFP, PART A, GENERAL INFORMATION, Section 1.0, Background, subsection 1.4, in which agencies may collaborate with other agencies. Agencies will also need to adhere to the minimum requirements set forth in RFP, INTRODUCTION, Part 6.0.

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6. Question: Part B, page 32, paragraph at the top of the page – What is County Code Section 2.80.010?

Answer: Refer to Attachment 4 to this Q and A.

7. Question: FS/FP/APSS SOWS, "Evaluation and Outcomes" – Is it required that each program (FS, FP, APSS) have a written evaluation and outcome plan? Also, is there additional funding for program evaluation or are agencies expected to integrate the cost into their budgets?

Answer: **Re: Family Preservation:** Yes, the Contractor will be responsible for collecting and entering data via the data collection instrument developed by the Inter University Consortium and the CFPN on all families referred to the CFPN. The CFPN will ensure the data is entered electronically at network sites and downloaded at a centralized database (aka the Family Preservation Archive). The data collection will include demographic data, primary allegations, and number of prior case openings and again at case closing and services recommended and received. Data will be analyzed by the Consortium and formally reported to DCFS in writing. We have allocated \$300,000 from the FP budget for evaluation.

**Re: Adoption Promotion and Support Services:** APSS requires a written evaluation and outcome plan. Refer to RFP, Part B, Instructions for Submitting Proposals, Section 7.6; RFP, Part D, Exhibit A-3, Adoption Promotion and Support Services Statement of Work, Part A, subsection 5.4.2; RFP, Part D, Exhibit A-3, Adoption Promotion and Support Services Statement of Work, Part C, Section 2.0; and RFP, Part F, Sample Contract for Adoption Promotion and Support Services, Section 8.16.

DCFS will be soliciting an outside statistician to assist in developing outcomes and data measuring methods. However, Proposers should incorporate the cost of meeting the requirements of the sections listed above into their budget, including but not limited to working with statistician and County Program Manager, and data entry.

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**Re: Family Support Services:** Yes. Monies have already been taken from the PSSF budget for the evaluation. Agencies are not expected to integrate the cost in their budget.

8. Question: If County reduces payment obligation, will Contractor need to continue services for the same number of clients?
- Answer: No. Refer to RFP, PART F, SAMPLE CONTRACTS, Sections 8.3 and 8.4.
9. Question: Why was such a short time allowed for this RFP?
- Answer: Current contracts end on June 30, 2005. In order for the continuation of program services, and adherence to the Board's Protest Policy, an ambitious timeline needs to be followed.
10. Question: FS SOW, page 20 – Re: method of data collection, what is CWS/CMS?
- Answer: CWS/CMS is an acronym for Child Welfare Services/Case Management System. From the State of California website: "CWS/CMS is a result of Chapter 1294, Statutes of 1989, Senate Bill 370. SB 370 required the development of a statewide computer system to automate the functions of county child welfare offices. The CWS/CMS system automates many of the tasks that county workers had to perform routinely and often manually. CWS/CMS allows for a centralized statewide system that allows State or county child welfare workers to share information on child abuse cases."
11. Question: Part A, page 21, 26.0 – What constitutes a "proven record of hiring GAIN participants"? Elsewhere in the RFP we are required to show willingness to hire.
- Answer: A proven record is verification by the County office that Proposer has hired GAIN participants.
12. Question: Regarding First 5 LA partnership – For the purposes of this proposal, must proposer enter into a formal partnership and submit an MOU from a First 5 LA partner? Or merely indicate its willingness to participate on the level indicated in the RFP?

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- Answer: RFP, Part D, Statements of Work, Section 6.0, The Partnerships for Families Initiative was added for information only and is independent of this RFP.
13. Question: Legislation is clear about independent contractors who are under 1099; explain how this relates to this proposal.
- Answer: Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) funding legislation, which funds this solicitation, states that all contractors must be 501(c)(3) organizations.
14. Question: Re: Performance Outcomes – How did the performance based percentage come about?
- Answer: These performance outcomes are based on the study seen on Attachment 5 to this Q and A.
15. Question: (1) Are linkage referrals only to DMH providers or can families requesting counseling be referred to Community Based Organizations? (2) Do all families have to be Medi-Cal eligible? (FS SOW, page 23, section 1.2.6)
- Answer: (1) Yes. Referrals as a “Linkage Service” are only to DMH Contract Providers. Counseling may also be provided by the community based organizations for parenting, domestic violence, improving communication skills, coping with stress, etc. (2) No, Medi-Cal eligibility is not required to be referred to the DMH Contract Providers as a “Linkage Service”.
16. Question: (1) There was a question earlier about if someone does not meet the medical necessities they could not be provided services under this mental health services. (2) If you are servicing families that are in the system you still cannot provide the MH services?
- Answer: (1) True, medical necessity criteria must be met to refer to a DMH Provider. Medical Necessity is defined by the following criteria: an included Axis I Diagnosis, severe and persistent symptoms and behaviors due to mental illness, and severe functional impairment in major life areas. (2) No. Mental health services are provided as a “Linkage Service” with a referral to a DMH Contract Provider.

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17. Question: FS adult MH services that might be necessary to provide the parent support portion. A parent that does not meet the qualification for MH portion - could those dollars be used to provide MH services for those parents, a more mildly anxious or depressed person, for instance?

Answer: No, parents with more mild mental health problems cannot be referred to a DMH Contract Provider because they do not meet medical necessity. Sometimes parents can be served as part of a collateral or family contact when the child meets medical necessity and has been referred to a DMH Contract Provider.

18. Question: I am going back to the issue of MH for adults not eligible for Medi-Cal services. I am going to ask again with regard to the budget using an independent contractor method to access clinically necessary services for those adults which linkages are not going to make them any good. They are not going to be eligible for Medi-Cal services. Can we then build it in the budget under the cost of services section on the contractor line and then explain why we have it in there?

Answer: No, providers cannot build the cost in the budget. Mental health services for clients that meet medical necessity criteria are provided as a "Linkage Service" whether or not they have Medi-Cal.

19. Question: APSS requires that supervisor has five (5) years of Adoption experience?

Answer: Yes. The supervisor must have a minimum of five years of Adoption experience during the last seven years in providing therapy to children and families.

It is the intent of the Department under the APSS Contract for therapy to address adoption issues. As such, therapists must be aware of therapeutic adoption issues, which can be accomplished by a supervisor with adoption experience.

If an agency has adoption expertise but is not an approved Medi-Cal/EPSTD provider, they can enter into an agreement with an approved Medi-Cal/EPSTD provider to provide direct therapy. The

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agency with adoption expertise can then provide adoption supervision/training to the therapists in the approved Medi-Cal/EPSDT collaborative agency.

The Department understands that some providers may not have both adoption experience and ability to serve EPSDT/Medi-Cal eligible children and partnerships/collaborative may need to be developed. It is this fact that hinders our children and families from receiving appropriate therapeutic services.

The intent of this Contract is to encourage these partnerships/collaborative by making these funds available and thereby giving our clients access to providers who can meet their adoption specific needs.

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROVIDERS - FY 2004-05**

	<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>SPA</b>	<b>Contact Person, Address, Phone / Email</b>
1	<b>Boys &amp; Girls Club of San Fernando Valley</b>	After school activities, wrestling practices, conflict resolution training, karate program, dance appreciation program, National youth program using mini bikes, outreach services, tutoring, Youth/parent groups, Computer training program.	<b>2</b>	Sandra Thomas-Perez 11251 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331 (818) 896-5261 sperez@bgcsfv.org
2	<b>Child and Family Center</b>	Support intervention services, teenage fathers support groups, parenting classes, mentoring, individual/family counseling, inhome intervention services, psychiatric referrals, mental health intervention services, childcare.	<b>2</b>	Jeanne Taylor 21704 Golden Triangle Rd., Ste. 120 Santa Clarita, CA 91350 (661) 259-9439 Wendy.shultz@childfamilycenter.org
3	<b>Children's Center of Antelope Valley</b>	Home based program for teen mothers, conflict resolution, community fund raising, Passport to manhood/male program, computer instruction, art instruction, sports/games, tutoring, monthly field trips, monthly talent shows, Teen recruitment, teen talk line.	<b>1</b>	Virginia Arcos 1055 West Ave. M, Ste 110 Lancaster, CA 93534 (661) 949-1206 familypres@qnet.com
4	<b>Community Family Guidance</b>	"Safety Bear" & dating violence presentations, classroom presentations, parenting classes.	<b>7</b>	Kitty Caputo 10929 South St., Ste. 208B Cerritos, CA 91306 (562) 924-5526 Kcaputo2@yahoo.com
5	<b>El Proyecto Del Barrio</b>	Outreach to out of school youth, parent groups, intergenerational groups, cultural enrichment activities, distribute bus tokens, tutoring, alternative educational assistance, parenting, job training.	<b>2</b>	Rocio Aguilera 20800 Sherman Way Van Nuys, CA 91306 (818) 710-5236 Raguilera@epdb.org
6	<b>Friends of the Family</b>	Pregnant Teen program, Community Presentations, Community referrals, support groups, Healthy Families health program, Family Read classes, conflict resolution, anger management classes, Family Heart Program, Calling all Kids program, Madison Community Collaborative & Friends Of The Family-Talk to me.	<b>2</b>	Wynn Helms 15350 Sherman Way, Ste. 140 Van Nuys, CA 91406 (818) 988-4430 Wynn@fofca.org



**FAMILY SUPPORT PROVIDERS - FY 2004-05**

	<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>SPA</b>	<b>Contact Person, Address, Phone / Email</b>
7	<b>Glendale Unified School District</b>	Community referrals, Outdoor games, Parenting, Conflict Resolution, Coaching children with disabilities, TB testing, Fingerprinting, background checks, Pregnant teen centers, Homeless youth program, After school program, Red Cross training, Support groups, Mentor programs, Enrichment programs, YMCA, YWCA, Tutoring.	<b>2</b>	Ree Harris 223 N. Jackson St. Glendale, CA 91206 (818) 241-3111 Rharris@gusd.net
8	<b>Hathaway Children &amp; Family Services</b>	Mentoring Program, childcare, Health Fairs, Screenings, Educational Programs, Youth Council meetings, Computer Literacy Lab, Book & Toy Library.	<b>4</b>	Silvia Esqueda 840 North Ave. 66 Los Angeles, CA 90042 (323) 257-9600 Silviae@hathawayfrc.org
9	<b>Helpline Youth Counseling</b>	Rites of Passage Program, Tutoring, Arts Project, Mobile Library, Music & Art Therapy, Phone Referral Bank, Advocacy.	<b>7</b>	Nelson Kee 12440 E. Firestone Blvd., Ste. 1000 Norwalk, CA 90650 (562) 864-3722 Ajg@ufnet.com
10	<b>Hillsides</b>	Pediatric and Adolescent Health Care Services, Provide Dental Visits for Children, Workshops to Asian Families, Support Groups for Kids at Risk.	<b>4</b>	Michelle Bielman 840 Echo Park Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90026 (213) 240-7655 Mbielman@juno.com
11	<b>Human Services Association</b>	Parenting Classes, Community Workshops, Domestic Violence Counseling, Rape Counseling, Support Groups	<b>7</b>	Leticia Rosado 6800 Florence Ave. Bell Gardens, CA 90201 (562) 806-5400 leticia.rosado@hshla.org
12	<b>Keep Youth Doing Something</b>	Sports Leagues, Safe Activities Friday Night Events, Leadership Program, Martial Arts, Visual Arts, Dance, Physical Fitness, Cultural Enrichment and Recreational Programs, Academic Enrichment and Vocational Education.	<b>2</b>	Sandra Franco 6740 Kester Ave. Ste. 200 Van Nuys, CA 91405 (818) 908-2029 Sfranco@kydsinc.org

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROVIDERS - FY 2004-05**

	<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>SPA</b>	<b>Contact Person, Address, Phone / Email</b>
13	<b>Korean Youth Center</b>	Case Management, Group Training, Rape/Battery Hotline, Domestic Violence Counseling, Mental Health Services, Tutoring, Group Counseling	<b>4</b>	Susan lee 680 S. Wilton Place Los Angeles, CA 90005 (213) 365-7400 Slee@kycccla.org
14	<b>LA COUNTY PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b>	Youth enrichment activities, field trips, Healthy park club, track/field activities.	<b>2</b>	Arlene Navarro 433 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90020 (213) 738-4909 Abnavarro@co.la.ca.us
15	<b>Mar Vista</b>	Life Skills, Parenting, Continuation School, Outreach classes, Field Trips, Developmental Tests, Youth Conference, Provide Scholarships, Cultural enrichment Career planning, Community Meetings.	<b>5</b>	Melody Greene 5070 South Slauson Ave. Culver City, CA 90230 (310) 390-9607 Marvistaac@aol.com
16	<b>Pacific Clinics</b>	Parenting Education, Educational Seminars, Telephone referrals,	<b>3</b>	Sam Ng 9353 E. Valley Blvd. Rosemead, CA 91770 (626) 287-2988 Gmasuda@pacificclinics.org
17	<b>Para Los Ninos</b>	Computer classes, teen pregnancy prevention, tutoring, SAT prep classes, arts/crafts, dance classes, guitar classes, drama classes, field trips, professional sporting events, organized soccer, basketball, flag football, Karaoke, job skills training, job fairs, financial class, web design classes, mentoring, leadership council.	<b>4</b>	David Cusack 845 East 6th St. Los Angeles, CA 90021 (213) 623-8446 Nstarks@paralosninos.org
18	<b>Pasadena Mental Health</b>	Mothers club/enrichment activities, summer camp, tutoring, field trips, arts/crafts, mobile dental van, shelter meals, marital classes, budgeting classes, after school activities, computer training.	<b>3</b>	Gary Moody 1495 N. Lake Ave. Pasadena, CA 91104 (626) 287-2988 Garymoody@pmhc.org

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROVIDERS - FY 2004-05**

	<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>SPA</b>	<b>Contact Person, Address, Phone / Email</b>
19	<b>Pico Union Westlake Cluster Network</b>	Health fairs, mentoring, Healthy families education.	<b>4</b>	Burt Saavedra 1345 S. Burlington Ave. 2nd Floor Los Angeles, CA 90006 (213) 351-0700 saavedrab@chw.edu
20	<b>Pomona Valley Youth Employment Svs.</b>	Individual counseling, case management, field trips, youth workshop trainings, food/clothing drives, YWCA & Y teen program, enrichment training, computer training, physical education activities, social activities.	<b>3</b>	Maria Talavera 558 E. Foothill Blvd. Pomona, CA 91767 (909) 621-5077 Malitainc@aol.com
21	<b>Santa Anita Family Services</b>	Conflict management training, after school program, recreation program, summer camp, scholarships provided, tutors, educational videos, back to school supplies, Christmas distribution, Multicultural pre school program, summer reading program, DARE parenting, Teen commission, camperships, peer mediation program, teen center, literacy program, Youth leadership program, theatre arts, life experience workshop, enrichment program, referral warm line, playground program, toy lending, performance arts education.	<b>3</b>	Valerie Russell 605 S. Myrtle Ave. Monrovia, CA 91016 (626) 359-9358 Valerier@santaanitafamilyservice.org
22	<b>Shields for Families</b>	Educational/Vocational training, GED classes, job readiness classes, Vocational Rehab access, job placement services, case management, individual counseling, group counseling, transportation, referrals to child care, job club.	<b>6</b>	Francisco Ramirez 2620 Industry Way Ste. A Lynwood, CA 90260 (323) 242-5000 Kicenhower@msn.com RamirezF@usc.edu
23	<b>Soledad Enrichment Action</b>	Parenting, Job preparedness, career counseling, job placement, Parent/teacher training, field trips, adult mentoring program, provide shelter to homeless teens, violence prevention classes, conflict resolution/anger management, tutoring, computer training, team sports, Youth leadership program.	<b>7</b>	Lourdes Cerda 3763 East 4th St. Los Angeles, CA 90063 (323) 261-9794 Lcerda@seacharter.net

**FAMILY SUPPORT PROVIDERS - FY 2004-05**

	<b>Agency Name</b>	<b>Services Provided</b>	<b>SPA</b>	<b>Contact Person, Address, Phone / Email</b>
24	<b>South Bay Center Counseling</b>	Community College program, Youth job training, employment skills training, job placement, computer training, culinary training, welding training, accounting training, marketing training, nurse's Aide training, job fairs, conflict resolution training.	<b>8</b>	Mary Hammer 360 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Ste. 2075 El Segundo, CA 90245 (310) 414-2090 Cmooney@sbaycenter.com Mhammer@sbaycenter.com
25	<b>Youth Opportunities Unlimited</b>	Video Conferencing, Media/Technology program, After school program, college partnership program.	<b>6</b>	Warren Telting 8419 S. Vermont Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90044 (323) 789-4977 Wtelting@juno.com

**FAMILY PRESERVATION PROVIDERS**

<b><u>GSA</u></b>	<b><u>SPA</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Name and Address</u></b>	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>
(GSA 17)	4	Assistance League of Southern California 1360 N. Saint Andrews Place Hollywood, CA 90028	(323) 469-5893
(GSA 19)	2	Assistance League of Southern California 1360 N. Saint Andrews Place Hollywood, CA 90028	(323) 469-5893
(GSA 1)	4	Bienvenidos Children's Center, Inc. 5233 E. Beverly Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90022	(323) 728-9577
(GSA 16)	3	Bienvenidos Children's Center, Inc. 5233 E. Beverly Boulevard Los Angeles, CA 90022	(323) 728-9577
GSA 3)	2	Boys & Girls Club of Pacoima 11251 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331	(818) 896-5261
(GSA 19)	2	Boys & Girls Club of Pacoima 11251 Glenoaks Blvd. Pacoima, CA 91331	(818) 896-5261
(GSA 10)	4	California Hospital Medical Center 1401 S. Grand Avenue, Leavy Hall Rm. 306 Los Angeles, CA 90015	(213) 742-5974
(GSA 4)	8	Cambodian Association of America 2390 Pacific Avenue Long Beach, CA 90806	(562) 988-1863
(GSA 3)	2	Child and Family Center 21545 Center Point Parkway Santa Clarita, CA 91350	(661) 259-9439 x3030
(GSA 9)	1	Children's Center of Antelope Valley 1055 W. Avenue M., Suite 110 Lancaster, CA 93534	(661) 949-1206
(GSA 10)	4	Children's Institute Inc. 711 S. New Hampshire Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90005	(213) 385-5100 Ext. 1800
(GSA 11)	8	Children's Institute Inc. 711 S. New Hampshire Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90005	(213) 385-5100 Ext. 1800
(GSA 12)	8	Children's Institute Inc. 711 S. New Hampshire Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90005	(213) 385-5100 Ext. 1800
(GSA 4)	8	City of Long Beach (Dept. of Health & Human Services) 2525 Grand Avenue Long Beach, CA 90815	(562) 570-4100

**FAMILY PRESERVATION PROVIDERS**

<b><u>GSA</u></b>	<b><u>SPA</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Name and Address</u></b>	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>
(GSA 6)	6	Drew Child Development Corporation 1770 E. 118th Street Los Angeles, CA 90059	(323) 249-2959
(GSA 20)	3	East Valley Boys and Girls Club 4100 Baldwin Park Blvd. Baldwin Park, CA 91706	(626) 338-1854
(GSA 2)	4	El Centro Del Pueblo 1157 Lemonyne Street Los Angeles, CA 90026	(213) 483-6335 x102
(GSA 8)	3	Five Acres Boys & Girls Club 760 W. Mountain View Street, Suite H Altadena, CA 91001 (mailing address)	(626) 844-1430 x109
(GSA 22)	6	Guidance Community Development Center, Inc. 3415 West 73rd Street Los Angeles, CA 90043	(323) 789-4940 x11
(GSA 21)	7	Helpline Youth Counseling Inc. 12440 E. Firestone Blvd. Suite 1000 Norwalk, CA 90650	(562) 864-3722
(GSA 25)	7	Human Services Association 6800 Florence Avenue Bell Gardens, CA 90201	(562) 806-5400 x139
(GSA 24)	8	Institute For Black Parenting 1299 E. Artesia Blvd., Ste. 200 Carson, Ca 90746	310-900-0930 x211
(GSA 6)	6	Institute for Maximum Human Potential 9624 S. Compton Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90002	(323) 567-9883
(GSA 12)	8	Joint Efforts 505 S. Pacific Avenue, Suite 205 San Pedro, CA 90731	(310) 831-2358 Ext. 101
(GSA 11)	8	National Council on Alcohol & Drugs (NCAAD) 1334 Post Avenue Torrance, CA 90501	(310) 328-2095 x241
(GSA 9)	1	Olive Crest 2130 E. 4th Street, Suite 200 Santa Ana, CA 92705	(714) 543-5437
(GSA 10)	4	Para Los Niños 500 Lucas Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90017	(213) 623-8446 Ext. 560
(GSA 1)	4	Plaza Community Center 648 Indiana Street	(323) 268-1107 x832

**FAMILY PRESERVATION PROVIDERS**

<b><u>GSA</u></b>	<b><u>SPA</u></b>	<b><u>Agency Name and Address</u></b>	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>
		Los Angeles, CA 90023	
(GSA 7)	3	Pomona Unified School District 2350 S. Garey Avenue Bldg. A Pomona, CA 91766	(909) 397-4700 ext. 3850
(GSA 6)	6	Praise of Zion Baptist Church / Personal Involvement 8220 San Pedro Street Los Angeles, CA 90003	(323) 750-1035
(GSA 23)	6	Project Impact 2640 Industry Way, Suite G & H Lynwood, CA 90262	(310) 605-1505
(GSA 18)	3	Santa Anita Family Services 605 Myrtle Avenue Monrovia, CA 91016	(626) 359-9358 x18
(GSA 5)	6	Shields for Families P.O Box 59129/ 127144 S. Avalon Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90061	(323) 242-5000 Ext.268
(GSA 13)	7	SPIRITT Family Services 13135 Barton Road Sante Fe Springs, CA 90605	(562) 903-7000
(GSA 15)	3	SPIRITT Family Services 13135 Barton Road (GSA 13) Sante Fe Springs, CA 90605	(562) 777-1410
(GSA 6)	6	Triangle Christian Services, Inc. 9122 S. San Pedro Street Los Angeles, CA 90003	(323) 242-0046
(GSA 19)	2	Valley Trauma Center 7116 Sophia Avenue Van Nuys, CA 91406	(818) 756-5330 x209
(GSA 14)	5	Westside Children's Center 12120 Wagner Street Culver City, CA 90230	(310) 390-0551 x501

**COUNTY CODE SECTION 2.180.010**

**2.180.010 Certain contracts prohibited.**

A. Notwithstanding any other section of this code, the county shall not contract with, and shall reject any bid or proposal submitted by, the persons or entities specified below, unless the board of supervisors finds that special circumstances exist which justify the approval of such contract:

1. Employees of the county or of public agencies for which the board of supervisors is the governing body;
2. Profit-making firms or businesses in which employees described in subdivision 1 of subsection A serve as officers, principals, partners or major shareholders;
3. Persons who, within the immediately preceding 12 months, came within the provisions of subdivision 1 of subsection A, and who:
  - a. Were employed in positions of substantial responsibility in the area of service to be performed by the contract; or
  - b. Participated in any way in developing the contract or its service specifications; and
4. Profit-making firms or businesses in which the former employees, described in subdivision 3 of subsection A, serve as officers, principals, partners or major shareholders.

B. Contracts submitted to the board of supervisors for approval or ratification shall be accompanied by an assurance by the department submitting, district or agency that the provisions of this section have not been violated. (Ord. 94-0075 § 2, 1994; Ord. 90-0030 § 3 (part), 1990.)



## MEASURING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COMMUNITY-BASED FAMILY PRESERVATION NETWORKS

In theory, the performance of CFPN's can be assessed by the extent to which the expected outcomes of family preservation services have been achieved. In fact, the Auditor-Controller's November 2000 report made specific recommendations to DCFS management Regarding outcome evaluation. These recommendations (in bold) will be discussed.

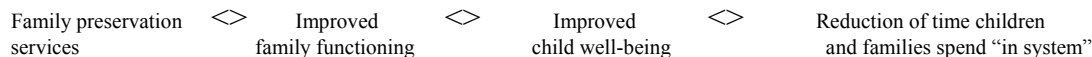
### **(1) DCFS should develop FP goals that are clear and measurable.**

*FP goals have not been specified for CFPNs either individually or collectively. It is suggested that goals should be specified in the RFP in order for CFPN's individually or collectively to be held accountable for meeting the goals.*

*Extensive evaluations of family preservation programs over the past few years have confirmed the following:*

- *there have been no significant differences in outcomes when traditional casework programs serving abused and neglected children and their families were compared with family preservation families.*
- *Both traditional casework programs and family preservation programs tend to serve families with the same presenting problems.*
- *Both traditional casework programs and family preservation programs tend to have low rates of out of home placement of children; this suggests that children in most families referred to these programs were not at imminent risk of placement or the programs were equally effective in preventing out-of-home placemen or both.*
- *In California, less than 10% of children reported for alleged child abuse end up in foster care. On the other hand, more than 70% of children in foster care were referred for neglect. (Lindsey, Martin and Doh, p. )*

*These findings imply that goals set for the community-based family preservation programs in LA County should be more about assisting families access formal and informal resources in order to improve family functioning and subsequently the well-being of their children. The ultimate outcome should be families more capable of functioning independently of child protective services. This can be expressed in the following simplified logic model.*



*It should be noted that the proximal outcomes or goals of family preservation services ("improved family functioning" and "improved child well-being") and the ultimate goal or outcome ("reduction of time children and families spend in the system") are now clearly measurable. However, the "expected" measures (i.e. how much improvement and how much reduction) have not been determined.*

**(2) DCFS should ensure that the process of FP data collection is completed and maintained.**

*Considerable effort has been made by CFPNs and by DCFS management staff to develop complete and reliable data necessary for outcome evaluation. The current process of data collection is based on the model above. However, the ultimate outcome data regarding re-entry in DCFS is collected separately in the DCFS and CWS/CMS systems. Procedures should be developed for transmitting these data to the FP Archives a least biannually for all cases closed in CFPNs.*

**(3) DCFS should utilize evaluation findings to better understand the variables that influence program success.**

*The current database in the FP Archives not only allows measures of outcomes (changes in family functioning and child well-being from intake to case closing) but also measures of family characteristics family history, services received and level of participation); i.e. variables that have been shown to influence outcomes However, it may well be that the most important variables influencing outcomes have not been included, e.g. skills of in-home counselors or effectiveness of clinical supervision.*

*This recommendation from the Auditor-Controller's report suggests that evaluation of these data may provide insights as to what family characteristics or service patterns are most likely to influence program success. The assumption is being made that "program success" (i.e., specific outcomes such as how much improvement and how much reduction) has been defined. A plan for analysis of these data should be specified in the RFP. For example, CFPNs may be required to provide data to the research division for analysis either by internal or external evaluators.*

**(4) DCFS should involve lead agencies in understanding the results and in determining a course of action to improve the program**

**(5) DCFS should commit to the periodic evaluation of FP and ensure that appropriate data is routinely captured, analyzed and used to make program modifications.**

*The lead agencies have, for the most part committed to the development, maintenance and utilization of a technically sound data collection process. The Auditor Controller's report recommended the involvement of lead agencies in insuring the appropriate utilization of the data collected including the appropriate analysis of the data to determine how the program may be improved.*

*Step1:*

*It would be important for the RFP to establish expected outcomes based on the findings from the current data in the FP Archives and included in the RFP. This should be the initial step in the on-going development of both appropriate outcome measures and appropriate "expected outcomes."*

*The expected outcomes may include*

- *percentage of families referred that are actually entered into the database (e.g. 95%)*
- *percentage of problems presented by families at intake that are at least “baseline-adequate” at case closing (e.g. 75%)*
- *percentage of problems presented by children at intake that are at least “baseline-adequate” at case closing (e.g. 75%)*
- *percentage of services recommended that were actually received (e.g. 75%)*
- *percentage of children referred from court who are in own home at case closing (e.g. 90%) and one year after case closing (e.g. 80%)*
- *percentage of families with subsequent allegations one year after case closing (<10%)*
- *percentage of families with subsequent case re-openings one year after case closing (<5%)*

*For this year, prior to final drafting of the RFP, expected outcomes (expressed as percentages) would be developed based on percentages for all CFPNs).*

*Step 2:*

*The RFP should require CFPNs to participate in an annual Program Review or Program Improvement Conference (or extended Roundtable?) at DCFS where the analysis of data from the Archives will be presented with particular emphasis on modifications for program improvement and on developing consensus regarding expected outcomes.*

### **6. DCFS should clarify the relationship between its plans for evaluation and the lead agency evaluations,**

*The data for evaluating family preservation services should not come solely from the service providers, i.e. the CFPNs. For example, an important dimension of program evaluation is consumer satisfaction. It is important to have input from families served as to the outcomes of services received. Not only does it provide another perspective on the importance of various aspects of the program but it serves notice to the service providers that their perceptions will be compared with those of the families and any discrepancies will be noted. In addition, follow-up study of families may be an important source of data regarding the skills of the in-home counselors or other program characteristics that may influence program success.*

*DCFS has several options as to how this input from families served may be obtained.*

- *a follow-up mailed questionnaire (6 mos.? one year?) after case closing conducted by DCFS Research Division staff.*
- *An RFP distributed to universities, research consultant groups, etc. to conduct the follow-up study.*
- *Collaboration with university research faculty to allow MSW students from their universities to collaborate on a joint research project to develop and conduct the follow-up study*